

Law & Literature

7397/26002

Watson, Fall 2026

Instructor Information	Amanda Watson, JD, MIS Assistant Dean of Library and Information Harvard Law School awatson@law.harvard.edu
Office Hours/ Communications	Office Hours: TBD first week of class or by Appointment
Required Textbook	There is no required text. Readings will be assigned throughout the class. Readings will be provided to students through Canvas or library reserve.
Attendance	Class attendance is mandatory and will be recorded for each class meeting. Excused absences should be arranged prior to class – if at all possible. Failure to arrange for an excused absence may result in an unexcused absence and a deduction in class attendance and participation.
Outcomes	At the end of this semester, you should: • Develop methods for identifying, analyzing, and articulating themes of law including justice, punishment, and ethics. • Understand a wide range of literary sources including classic and contemporary literature. • Build on your writing skills and gain confidence in your persuasive and narrative writing.
Grades	Course grades are determined by performance on the following: Writings 1-5: 15% each Questions for Reading: 10% Participation: 15%
Plagiarism	Plagiarism nor any type of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. All quotes must be properly noted in quotation marks, all sources must be cited.

Late Work	You are expected to turn in graded assignments by the date and time designated. It is your responsibility to communicate any emergencies that may affect your ability to timely submit assignments.
Group Work/Collaboration	Unless specifically designated as collaborative work, all graded assignments must be only your work. No collaboration is allowed.
AI	It is a normal and expected thing to use AI. You may use AI in the same ways that you would have a conversation with a colleague. If an action would be considered cheating with a human, it is cheating with AI.
Counseling and Psychological Services	Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-7435454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the “Let's Talk” program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html .
Anti-Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policies	UHLC and the University are committed to maintaining and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment in which students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from discrimination and sexual misconduct. If you have experienced an incident of discrimination or sexual misconduct, a confidential reporting process is available to you. For more information, please refer to the University system's Anti-Discrimination Policy webpage, Anti-Discrimination Policy, Sexual Misconduct Policy webpage, and Sexual Misconduct Policy. Under the University Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information about resources on the Title IX website at https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/.